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24 Jul 63

McCone Asks Better CIA Retirement

United Press International

Central Intelligence Agency director John A. McCone made a pitch yesterday to get a better retirement system for U. S. spies overseas, and at a public hearing at that.

McCone, who isn't used to testifying at open hearings, spoke in such hush-hush tones that two Congressmen had to ask him to speak louder.

A House Armed Services subcommittee, headed by Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-S. C.), immediately went into closed session after McCone delivered a brief opening statement so details of the proposed retirement system are still secret.

However, McCone did say for the public record that it would be similar to that of the foreign service.

In support of the legislation, McCone heaped warm praise on CIA employees in general. He said they had a "high degree of professionalism" and "were unequalled in any other agency of Government or any private industry with which I have been associated."